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PRESS RELEASE

2014 Diversity Visa Program Registration opens

The 2014 Diversity Visa Program (DV-2014) opened on Tuesday, October 2, 2012, and will close on Saturday, November 3, 2012. Applicants must submit entries electronically during this registration period using the electronic DV entry form (E-DV) at www.dvlottery.state.gov. Paper entries will not be accepted. We strongly encourage applicants not to wait until the last week of the registration period to enter. Heavy demand may result in website delays. No entries will be accepted after noon, EDT, on November 3, 2012.

The congressionally mandated Diversity Immigrant Visa Program is administered on an annual basis by the Department of State and provides for a class of immigrants known as “diversity immigrants.” A maximum of 55,000 Diversity Visas are made available each fiscal year to persons from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States.

The annual DV program makes visas available to persons meeting the simple, but strict, eligibility requirements. A computer-generated, random drawing chooses selectees for Diversity Visas. The visas are distributed among six geographic regions, with a greater number of visas going to regions with lower rates of immigration, and with no visas going to nationals of countries sending more than 50,000 immigrants to the United States over the period of the past five years. No single country may receive more than seven percent of the available Diversity Visas in any one year.

The Department of State implemented the electronic registration system beginning with DV-2005 in order to make the Diversity Visa process more efficient and secure. We utilize special technology and other means to identify those who commit fraud for the purposes of illegal immigration or those who submit multiple entries.

For DV-2014, the Department of State will once again implement an online process to notify entrants of their selection, and to provide information about the immigrant visa application and interview. Beginning May 1, 2013, DV-2014 entrants will be able to use their unique confirmation number provided at registration to check online through Entry Status Check at <http://www.dvlottery.state.gov> to see if their entry was selected. Successful entrants will receive instructions for how to apply for immigrant visas for themselves and their eligible family

members. Confirmation of visa interview appointments will also be made through Entry Status Check.

Please beware of scam type e-mails sent to DV applicants, notifying them that they have won the lottery. Do not respond to such e-mails or send any money in response to them. Notifications of DV lottery winners do not come by e-mail and all fees are collected only after a successful DV lottery winner has been asked to come to the Consulate for an interview.

For detailed information about entry requirements, along with frequently asked questions about the DV program, please see the instructions for the DV-2014 Diversity Visa program available at http://travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/types/types_1318.html.

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